MARVEL

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

8

HILL | CASELLI | CURIEL

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From the Book of Bast the Goddess:
"You will guide them to their better natures...
"...through the storms of violence and despair.
"Be mindful not to rip the womb of nations. Let no brother strike against another.
"Let no righteous tear find the soil.

"You are my hand. You walk in my power.
"You will shield them from your fear.

Moon Knight wants him *slain!*
Ngh!
"You must endure *their* pain...
You force my hand.

UNH!
KRAK
Very well.
VMMMM

"Those who follow you will mirror your virtue.
"Your calm spirit.
RRRRAH!
"Your grace.
AGHH!

"Your pride as a sentinel of peace.

UNH!
KRAK
SPLTCH
AAAGGHH!

Khonshu brings illumination.
"They will see you, Panther.
Receive it, blasphemer.
Nngh...
"And you will be loved."

GGGYAAAAHH!!!

AAAHHH!

Ease yourself, my king.
Okoye.
The last thing I remember is war.
War makes new memories every day.
You went unconscious on the battlefield. It's been seven days.
Seven days of you crying. And screaming. And me lying to everyone in Wakanda because I was scared you were going to die.

I had *visions.* Things I can't reason.
They pulled *this* from your body. A gift from Khonshu's dog. Perhaps it was poisoned.
Not poisoned. Not by them.
I need water.
You need *rest.*
And you need to calm the lion inside your sister.
She's marshaling our forces. She wants to attack Khonshu and Ra. In your name.
The words of a queen can only contain her for so long.

When I am unable to speak, the words of the queen are as strong as Bast herself.
I'll talk to her.
She is not in the mood to listen.
And I am not in the mood to argue.
I can feel it.
Feel what?

That.
I can feel it as if it could breathe.
I can feel all of it.
Our technology. The *vibranium*. It sings to me now.
You're not making sense. And it's scaring me.
Pick up that blade.

Hold it. Stretch out your arm.
And now?

T'Challa...I don't... You... willed it to you.
No.
I asked it.
We have built a kingdom on a power we do not understand. And until we truly understand vibranium, Khonshu has the advantage.
Say nothing. To anyone.
KLUNK
I need to be alone, Okoye.

Somewhere in Eastern Europe.
HRRK!
THOOM
You can keep this going...
...or you can tell us what we want to know.
Telling you gets me killed.
Not telling us gets you hurt.
Again and again.
We need someone skilled in the occult. More skilled than you.
A magician. That's what we're here to find.
You're wrong.
For what you seek, you don't want a "magician"...
Stop hurting me--

--and I'll tell you where you can find the *Sorcerer Supreme.*
But you're going to have to kill a *lot* of people to reach them...
TO BE CONTINUED...